

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of treatment or prophylaxis of atherosclerosis, which method comprises:
repeatedly administering ~~administration of~~ one or more Growth Hormone Releasing Peptides (GHRPs) to a patient in need of such treatment or prophylaxis, wherein said repeatedly administering ~~administration~~ is carried out under conditions effective to treat or prevent atherosclerosis.

2. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the patient is at risk of developing ~~which comprises preventing the development of~~ atherosclerotic plaques, or cardiovascular disease associated with atherosclerosis, and said repeatedly administering is effective to prevent development of atherosclerotic ~~by carrying out said administration on a patient at risk of developing~~ plaques, hypercholesterolemia or cardiovascular diseases associated with atherosclerosis.

3. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the patient has atherosclerotic plaques, and said repeatedly administering is effective to cause a reduction in the area of atherosclerotic plaques ~~which comprises treating pre-existing atherosclerosis by carrying out said administration on a patient who has atherosclerosis.~~

4-5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the one or more GHRPs are hexarelin (His-(D)-(Me)Trp-Ala-Trp-(D)-Phe-Lys-NH₂, SEQ ID NO: 1) or EP80317 (Haic-(D)-(Me)Trp-(D)-Lys-Trp-(D)-Phe-Lys-NH₂, SEQ ID NO: 2).

7-25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) A method of preventing or treating atherosclerosis, which method comprises:

repeatedly administering ~~a growth hormone releasing peptide of Hexarelin family, a derived peptidomimetic or a CD36 ligand~~ to a patient in need of such prevention or treatment a CD36 ligand that reduces uptake of oxidized low density lipoprotein (oxLDL), wherein said administering is carried out under conditions effective to prevent or treat atherosclerosis.

27-28. (Cancelled)

29. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein said repeatedly administering is carried out daily.

30. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 29, wherein daily administering is carried out for four or more weeks.

31. (New) A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the GHRP does not induce secretion of growth hormone.

32. (New) A method for treatment of atherosclerosis, which comprises:
administering to a patient in need of such treatment one or more Growth Hormone Releasing Peptides (GHRPs) that do not induce secretion of growth hormone, wherein said administering is carried out daily using an amount of the one or more GHRPs that is effective to cause reduction of atherosclerotic lesion area or delay of lesion progression.